

Braille Technology Requirements – Badger Exam, 3-8

Students taking the Badger Exam, 3-8 who need Braille will access the braille interface using the Badger secure browser. The vendors listed will provide support for the braille-related hardware and software. Contracted and uncontracted Braille will be offered at grades 3-8 and Nemeth Braille for mathematics.

Braille Hardware

The following devices are to be used for students accessing tests with a Braille accommodation.

- **For students:** A refreshable Braille display. It is recommended that the display have a minimum of 40 cells.
- **For Test Administrators:** View Plus Tiger Max Embosser

Reminder: All printed test materials for secure tests must be shredded immediately after a test session ends.

Braille Software

Requirements for Student Computers

- The Student Testing Site currently supports the Braille interface on Windows 7 machines and Mac OS X 10.6 and above.
- The Assistive Technology Badger Exam Secure Browser must be installed on all Windows and Mac machines used for student testing with assistive devices, including tests administered using the Braille interface. Detailed installation instructions on secure browsers are available in the [Technology Coordinator Manual](#).
- JAWS Screen Reader (version 12, 13, 14, 15, or 16) or VoiceOver for OS X for Macs.
- Refreshable Braille display that is compatible with Windows 7 and the version of JAWS that is on the computer (12, 13, or 14). We recommend that the Braille display have a minimum of 40 cells.

For more information about JAWS, including product download and purchase, go to <http://www.freedomscientific.com/products/fs/jaws-product-page.asp>

Requirements for Test Administrator Computers

TAs administering tests to students who require braille must have the following software installed on their machine prior to testing. The software is necessary to process these students' print requests.

- **Duxbury Braille Translator 11.1**

This software allows print of items and reading passages (without images) and can be downloaded from <http://www.duxburysystems.com/dbt.asp?product=DBT%20win>.

- **ViewPlusTiger Max Embosser** and the supporting **ViewPlus Desktop Embosser Driver**

This software allows printing of items and reading passages (without images) and can be downloaded from <http://downloads.viewplus.com/drivers/desktop-Braille-embosser/>. The download includes a Tiger Viewer software, which is needed to handle print requests for items and passages that contain tactile or spatial components.

Braille Settings in TOMS

The District and School Technology Coordinators are responsible for installing the correct browsers on the devices used for testing at a school. District Assessment Coordinator and School Assessment Coordinators are responsible for setting each student's test settings in TOMS according to the student's specific needs based on the [Smarter Balanced Usability, Accessibility and Accommodations Guidelines](#) posted on the DPI website.

Students using use braille devices (Jaws and Voice-Over), speech-to-text, or other assistive technology or software must have "Permissive mode" enabled in their settings in TOMS. Permissive mode is a setting that allows assistive software and devices to function with the Assistive Technology, Badger Exam 3-8, Secure Browser.

When Braille or Speech to Text is set for a student, the TOMS system will automatically select the "permissive mode" indicator within TOMS. If the student will be using other assistive devices, not associated with Braille or speech to Text, users must manually enable the Permissive Mode option in the Accessibility Resources section of the student's TOMS profile.

To edit a student's test setting, users will log in to TOMS and locate the student's profile. In the Accessibility Resources section of the student's profile, users can edit accessibility resources for the student. Users can also load Permissive Mode and Accessibility Resources test settings for a student into TOMS by using the template upload method. For more information on how to navigate TOMS, please refer to the [TOMS User/Student Manual](#).

Other assistive technologies (besides Jaws and Voice-Over) may be used but aren't certified and may not work as intended with the Badger Exam. It is recommended that schools test and to verify the functionality of the technology using the [Badger Exam practice test](#) prior to administration of the Badger Exam and understand the risk of using assistive devices not supported.